



JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

383 Hall of Administration / 500 West Temple Street / Los Angeles, California 90012 / (213) 974-1431

MEMBERS

Bertrum M. CeDillos
Chair

Clifton W. Albright
Vice Chair

Lee Kanon Alpert
Nelson L. Atkins
Walter Coombs
Andrew Friedman
William J. Galloway
Ann Jackson
Thomas J. Jeffers
Neal S. Millard
Carol L. Rose
Sylvia Scott-Hayes
Robbi J. Work

MINUTES OF THE 667th MEETING OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

The 667th meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission was held on October 20, 2005, in Room 140 at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California. A list of those in attendance follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bertrum M. CeDillos, Chair
Nelson L. Atkins
Andrew Friedman
Ann Jackson
Carol Rose

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Clifton Albright, Vice Chair
Lee Kanon Alpert
Walter Coombs
William J. Galloway
Thomas J. Jeffers
Neal Millard
Sylvia Scott-Hayes
Robbi J. Work

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Heather Aubry, City Attorney's Ofc.
Lt. George Bush, LA City Police Department
Laura Green, Public Defender's Office
Michael P. Karsch, L. A. City Council
Larry Mason, District Attorney's Office

SUPERIOR COURT REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. Margaret Little, Superior Court
Honorable John H. Sandoz, Superior Court
Zoe Venhuizen, Superior Court

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Peggy Shuttleworth, Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee

STAFF

Jim Corbett
Audra Galang
Austin Patteson

CALL TO ORDER

Chair CeDillos called the 667th regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission (JPC) to order at 12:37 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Lt. George Bush was asked to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions of the Commissioners, Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Guests followed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 21, AUGUST 18, AND SEPTEMBER 15, 2005

Approval of the July 21, August 18, and September 15, 2005 meetings were postponed due to the lack of a quorum.

- Commissioner Jackson requested that the September 15, 2005 minutes be corrected to read that *Peggy Shuttleworth* reported that the grant for the Violence against Women Program will become available in time for the new federal fiscal year.
- Chair CeDillos requested that the Chair's Report of the September 15, 2005 minutes include his announcement that Andrew Friedman was appointed to the Los Angeles City Fire Commission by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.
- Heather Aubry requested that her name be moved from "County Representatives" to the "Ex-Officio Member" list on the July 21, 2005 minutes.

GUEST SPEAKER – KATHLEEN DIXON, LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT, MANAGER

Chair CeDillos welcomed and introduced Kathleen Dixon, who was recruited by the Los Angeles Superior Court to develop and manage the Urban Collaboration Model Self-Help Pilot Project in 2002. In 2004, the Justice Corps was founded to relieve overcrowded self-help legal centers and enhance the quality and the quantity of service delivery to self-represented litigants.

The Justice Corps recruits a total of 100 law and public administration students from UCLA, as well as California State Universities at Northridge, Dominguez Hills, and Cal Poly Pomona. In exchange for work experience and a \$1,000 education bonus, each program participant serves 300 volunteer hours within a one-year period. The students receive approximately sixty hours of training and their primary duties include conducting client triage, helping marginally literate clients use computer and print resources, and holding workshops to guide multiple clients through the self-representation process. The program draws funding from an AmeriCorps grant overseen by the California Administrative Office of the Courts. Ms Dixon anticipates that the program may be expanded after 2008 and other counties are considering implementing a Justice Corps program in their areas modeled after this program.

Following a question and answer period, Chair CeDillos thanked Ms. Dixon for her informative presentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

Independent Cities Association

On behalf of Councilman Zine, Michael P. Karsh reported that the Independent Cities Association (ICA) is an assembly of roughly fifty Los Angeles cities whose police and fire departments do not contract with Los Angeles County departments. The ICA

conducts seminars and educational forums to discuss problems of mutual interest, and also runs a Lease Management Authority and Risk Management Authority.

The ICA will be teaming up with the Police Chief's Association of California to conduct a winter seminar on Homeland Security and Disaster Management in Santa Barbara.

Child Custody Exchange

Peggy Shuttleworth reported that the Child Custody Exchange project has been granted \$165,575 for its first year. The Board of Supervisors will receive these funds, and pass them on to the project upon approval of a budget appropriation. Ms. Shuttleworth stated that the Board letter is ready, and that once Chair CeDillos signs it, she will submit it to the Auditor Controller's Office for review. Following review and approval by the Auditor Controller, Ms. Shuttleworth will file the letter with the Board of Supervisors.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Honorable John H. Sandoz announced that County courts are accepting applications for Court Commissioner until November 21, 2005. Judges will review applications from qualified attorneys, and then contact select applicants for initial interviews. Successful interviewees will have their names added to a master list from which judges select new Judicial Officers as vacancies arise. Those who apply via this process do not require an initial nomination. The complete application processing takes five to six months, so those who apply soon can expect to be eligible for selection as early as April of 2006. Application forms are available at all County Courthouses and Bar Associations.
- Chair CeDillos announced that the November 17th JPC meeting will include three speakers on the topic of technology in the courts. Speakers Ron Larsen and Terry Weiss will focus their discussion on traditional versus electronic court reporting, and Frederic Klunder will speak more broadly on technology in the courtroom.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA

- It was asked if former Commissioner Kamenir-Reznik had received an honorary scroll from the Supervisor upon her resignation. Chair CeDillos replied that a personal letter of thanks had been sent to her on behalf of the Commission. A scroll is forthcoming from the office of Supervisor Yaroslavsky in recognition of Janice's years of service on the Commission, at which time, the scroll will be presented to Commissioner Kamenir-Reznik at a future JPC meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

The next meeting of the Judicial Procedures Commission is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2005.